Portfolio Investment Scheme and in shares and convertible debentures of Indian companies on non-repatriation basis.

(b) Total inflows from NRIs (under the FDI and other schemes) during the period 1991 till September, 2004 is Rs. 9773.91 crore.

(c) FDI, including investment by NRIs, is determined by a number of factors, both internal and external. Global economic environment and domestic economic situation play a major role. In a liberalised economy locational decisions are taken by investors based on their commercial judgement. Separate statistics on State-wise and country-wise investment by NRIs are not maintained.

Role of DGFT

1765. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a study group, under a former Commerce Secretary, was constituted to consider and to recommend on the role and restructuring of the Director General of Foreign Trade in the context of prevalent liberalised economic policy;

(b) if so, the details of its recommendations; and

(c) the action taken so far by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) A Study Group was set up under Sh. P.P. Prabhu, former Commerce Secretary, to advise the Government on the future role and functions of the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) and its possible restructuring in the liberalised economic scenario and emerging world trading environment. Some of the key recommendations of the Prabhu Committee, are—

1. Streamlining of the existing activities of Directorate General of Foreign Trade including a simplified procedure for issue of Importer Exporter Code number (IEC).
2. Rationalisation of Duty Neutralisation Schemes once the Customs/ Excise duties come down to ASEAN levels and customs computerisation is completed.

3. Directorate General of Foreign Trade to play a more effective role in trade promotion and facilitation and perform the following activities—

— act as a field agency of the Department of Commerce;

— act as a resource centre for trade information;

— act as a trade facilitator;

— act as a watchdog of trade trends;

— act as a trade protection agency;

— act as a monitoring agency of exports; and

— act as a support organisation for WTO negotiations.

(c) The Study Group recommendations on restructuring of the Directorate General of Foreign Trade are under consideration of the Government.

Priorities of trade policy

1766. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to prioritise employment rather than dollar generation in foreign trade policy so as to generate employment as well as enhance India's share in world trade;

(b) if so, the percentage share of "service sector" in foreign earnings at present; and

(c) what is the anticipated increase in terms of dollar generation in service sector in particular and other sector in general?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) The Preamble to the Foreign Trade Policy 2004-09 announced on 31st August, 2004 reflects that our main purpose is not the mere earning of foreign exchange, but the stimulation of greater economic activity. Accordingly, the twin objectives of the foreign trade policy are:

— to double our percentage share of global merchandise trade within the next five years; and